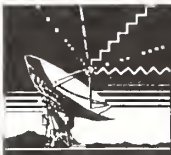


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Broadcasters Letter

United States Department of Agriculture • Office of Communications • Washington, DC 20250-1300

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Letter No. 2736

October 20, 1995

PUBLIC FARM BILL HEARINGS ANNOUNCED -- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 18) that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold public farm bill hearings, citing a lack of open public discussion on current farm bill proposals. In a speech at the National Press Club, Glickman said, "Of the curious things about this year's farm bill debate, few are more striking than the lack of public hearings about the major legislative proposals." Glickman emphasized that USDA will hold nonpartisan farm bill hearings in Washington on Oct. 31, Nov. 1, and Nov. 2. The half-day sessions will focus on: commodity programs and research; conservation; and block granting of rural development and related proposals. **Contact: Johna Pierce (202) 720-4623.**

NEW CROP INSURANCE PILOT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED -- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 16) the creation of a new crop insurance option on a pilot program intended to help apple growers in Vermont and New Hampshire adopt new integrated pest management (IPM) strategies and technologies to combat apple scab. Crop losses resulting from apple scab are not currently covered by the Federal crop insurance apple policy. However, the specific growers participating in this pilot program will be eligible for insurance coverage that will indemnify them for possible losses due to apple scab. Apple scab is the most serious apple disease in the world. USDA's Agricultural Research Service provided funding for the apple scab project, and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation developed the insurance coverage pilot. **Contact: Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206.**

HORN NAMED ADMINISTRATOR OF ARS -- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 16) that Floyd Horn has been named administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. As administrator of ARS, Horn will oversee the management of USDA's agricultural research arm. This includes national and international research in improved crop and livestock production, pest management, livestock diseases, food safety and biotechnology, human nutrition and sustainable agriculture. **Contact: Maria Bynum (202) 720-5192.**

SHIPPING PATTERNS FOR TRQ ELIMINATED -- Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman (October 13) announced that Certificates of Quota Eligibility for raw cane sugar, entering during FY 1996, may be issued at any time to all countries that have Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) allocations. The shipping patterns, which were established in the July 28, 1995, TRQ announcement, are now eliminated for the FY 1996 period. **Contact: Lynn K. Goldsbrough (202) 720-3930.**

FOOD SAFETY FORUM RESCHEDULED -- Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman announced (October 13) that the Food Safety Forum in Washington, DC, would be rescheduled for Nov. 8--a week later than the Nov. 1 date originally set. The date was changed after the U.S. Department of Agriculture received requests from a number of groups interested in the Forum to move the date due to prior commitments to attend other meetings that conflicted with the previously announced date. The Forum will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the USDA, 14th Street and Independence Ave., S.W., in the back of the South Building Cafeteria (between the 2nd and 3rd wings). **Steve Lombardi (202) 720-9113.**

CHANGE TO LOG EXPORT RULE-- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 13) a 120 day suspension of the new portions of the log export regulations that were issued September 8. The suspension is effective October 17. Glickman said the suspension was necessary to allow additional time for public comment on the new regulations, and to give log owners and exporters time to prepare for the new log handling procedures. During the suspension of the regulations, existing regulations and contracts will continue to provide some export control. **Contact: Mike O'Connor (202) 205-1134.**

STATES TO RECEIVE NATIONAL FOREST PAYMENTS -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas announced (October 13) that 41 states and Puerto Rico will share interim payments totaling over \$199 million as their portion of national forest receipts collected in Fiscal Year 1995. The interim payment represents 75 percent of the estimated total amount each state will receive as its share of funds collected during the year from the sale and use of a variety of national forest products and services. USDA pays any additional funds it owes the states in December, after determining the actual receipts for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30. The funds are used for schools and roads. The largest interim payments will go to Oregon, \$82 million; California, \$31 million; Washington, \$22 million; and Idaho, \$11 million. **Contact: Marty Longan (202) 205-1777.**

PRODUCERS TO RECEIVE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS -- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 12) that approximately \$865 million in deficiency payments will be made to eligible producers who participated in the 1994 corn and grain sorghum programs. The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, requires that deficiency payments be made when either the national weighted average market price received by producers during the first five months of the marketing year plus 7 cents or the 12-month average market price is below the established target price. Payments totaling approximately \$865 million will be made through county Farm Service Agency offices. Corn producers will receive about \$792 million and grain sorghum producers about \$73 million. **Contact: Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206.**

ALMOST 1.18 MILLION ACRES FOR CRP SIGNUP -- Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced (October 12) that preliminary figures indicate approximately 1.18 million acres have been offered for enrollment in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the September 11-22 signup period. USDA can accept about 651,000 acres of the total offered because this was the amount of acreage participants withdrew from the CRP under the 'early out' opportunity announced May 5. Because of the relatively small acreage scheduled, the bidding and enrollment process was modified to ensure that only the most environmentally-sensitive lands are accepted. **Contact: Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206.**

EDITED BY LESLIE PARKER

FROM OUR RADIO SERVICE

AGRICULTURE USA #2003 -- U.S. farm exports are soaring and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor explains why. **(Weekly cassette -- five minute documentary).**

CONSUMER TIME #1482 -- Americorps-Year number two; Finding new ways to feed the hungry; World Food Prize winner is announced; Parasites hurting U.S. bee population; Obesity rates on the rise among African -American women. **(Weekly cassette -- consumer features).**

AGRITAPE# 1995 -- Trade with China a Mixed bag; Hog outlook lookin' good; The farm market possibilities of the Ukraine; The aging Japanese farmers; Finding the water.**(Weekly cassette -- news features).**

UPCOMING ON USDA RADIO NEWSLINE -- Tuesday October 31 weekly weather and crop outlook; Tuesday November 7 weekly weather and crop outlook; Wednesday November 8 World Ag. Supply and demand (Cotton) Thursday November 9 World Ag. Supply and demand Monday November 13 Feed outlook; Oil Crops Outlook; Rice Outlook; Wheat Outlook; Cattle and sheep outlook. **These are USDA reports we know about in advance. Our newslines carries many stories every day which are not listed in this lineup.**

USDA RADIO NEWSLINES (202) 488-8358 or 8359.

COMREX ENCODED (202) 720-2545

Material changed at 5:00 p.m., ET, each working day and 10:30 a.m. on crop report days.

FROM OUR TELEVISION SERVICE

FEATURES -- Pat O'Leary reports on the second year kick off of Americorps, with President Clinton's comments at a recent White House rally.

ACTUALITIES -- Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman speaks at USDA on World Food Day; Glickman speaks at National Press Club on October 17 about the Farm Bill and other issues.

UPCOMING -- Patrick O'Leary reports a polymer that reduces soil erosion when added to irrigation water.

SATELLITE COORDINATES FOR TV NEWSFEEDS: Thursdays at 3:45-4:00 p.m. ET on Telstar 303, Transponder 5H(horizontal), Channel 10, Downlink Frequency 3900 MHz, Audio, 6.2/6.8.

Comments and suggestions are welcome regarding USDA broadcast services. Call Larry Quinn, (202)720-6072, or write to: Room 1618-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-1300.

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ANNUAL FALL MEETING...of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters (NAFB) is scheduled November 8-12 in Kansas City at the Westin Crown Center. NAFB President **Joe Cornely** (WRFD, Columbus, OH) will be presiding, but this week his attention is focused on moving to new studio facilities. The new location will increase opportunities for enhancements in broadcast technology.

33 YEARS ON THE AIR...for KMTV's (Omaha, NE) weekly Saturday morning "Farm Report" ended August 26. Farm broadcaster **Warren Nielson** was the host for the entire tenure of the area's longest, continuous television farm program. A regular reader of this letter, **Jim Rodenburg** of Omaha Stockyards writes a *MarketPlace* newspaper column, and he sent us clippings about Warren's long service to Nebraskans. Rodenburg's article about Warren quotes him as saying, "When I started we had no tape recorders, no telephone broadcasting capability and very limited equipment. If we went out to the country to interview a farmer, we came back to the studio for a live broadcast and reported what they said." Warren's first TV program aired Thanksgiving weekend in 1962.

QUICK ACCESS...to this newsletter is available through USDA's fax-on-demand service called AgNewsFax. **Mark Vail** (AgriTalk, Kansas City, MO) wrote recently to say that he is getting the letter by fax and appreciates the service. Also, he inquired about Internet access. We are planning to make this letter available soon on USDA's Home Page. We'll let you know when it is available regularly through Internet.

NEXT WEEK...on this page, there will be a form you will need to complete if you wish to continue receiving this letter. We appreciate your reading and using this letter, and we need your help in updating and verifying our mailing information. Only those who return the form will be retained on our circulation list. Watch for the form and send your reply.

Larry A. Quinn

LARRY A. QUINN, Director

Video, Teleconference and Radio Center



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